His Majesties

MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECH

To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT,

On *Tuesday* the Twentieth Day of *October*, 1696.

LONDON,
Printed by *Charles Bill* and the Executrix of *Thomas Newcomb*, deceas'd, Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1696.

MI - 1990

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
MAY 28, 1913
SUBSCRIPTION FOR

His Majesties
MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECH

To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT,

On Tuesday the Twentieth Day of October, 1696.

LONDON,

Printed by Charles Bill and the Executrix of Thomas Newcomb, deceas'd. Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1696.

His Majesties MOST GRACIOUS SPEECH To both HOUSES of PARLIAMENT.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Have Call'd you together as soon as it was possible, and I Think it a great Happiness that this Year has pass'd without any Disadvantage Abroad, or Disorder at Home, Considering Our great Disappointment in the Fonds Given at your last Meeting, and the Difficulties which have arisen upon the Recoining of the Money.

This is so convincing a Proof of the good Disposition of My Army, and of the Steady Affections of My People, that I cannot but take Notice of it with great Satisfaction.

Our Enemies have not been without Hopes, that such a Conjecture might have prov'd Fatal to Us; but as they have failed of those Expectations, so I am fully perswaded, that your Unanimous Proceedings in this Session, will make them for ever Despair of an Advantage from any Disagreement among Our Selves.

It must be confess'd, that the Business which you have before you will be very Great, because of the Necessity of Supplying former Deficiencies, as well as making Provisions for the next Years Service.

And upon this Occasion, it is fit for Me to Acquaint you, that some Overtures have been made, in order to the Entring upon a Negotiation for a General Peace: But I am sure We shall all agree in Opinion, That the only way of Treating with *France* is with Our Swords in Our Hands; and that We can have no Reason to expect a Safe and Honourable Peace, but by shewing Our Selves prepar'd to make a Vigorous and Effectual War. In Order to which, I do very earnestly recommend to you, *Gentlemen of the House of Commons*, That you would consider of Raising the Necessary Supplies, as well for Maintaining the Honour of Parliaments, in making good the Fonds already Granted, as for Carrying on the War the next year; which I think ought not to be less than what was intended to be Raised for that purpose the last Session.

I must also put you in mind of the Civil List, which cannot be Supported without your Help; and the Miserable Condition of the *French* Protestants does oblige Me to mention them to you again.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It may deserve your Consideration, whether there do not still remain some Inconveniencies relating to the Coin, which ought to be Remedied. And I hope you'll find out the best Expedients for the Recovery of Credit, which is absolutely Necessary, not only with Respect to the War, but for Carrying on of Trade.

I am of Opinion, that there is not one good *English* Man, who is not intirely convinc'd, how much depends upon this Session; and therefore I cannot but hope for your Unanimity and Dispatch in your Resolutions; which at this time are more necessary than ever, for the Safety and Honour of *England*.

FINIS.